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Open Space Committee Minutes 12/01/2004

Open Space Committee
 Approved MINUTES (Jan. 2005)
 MEETING OF WEDNESDAY, DECEMBER 1, 2004

The Open Space Committee (OSC) met in the Town Hall Annex, First Floor conference room. Present at the meeting were Ann LeRoyer, David White, Elizabeth Karpati, Joey Glushko, Leslie Mayer, Roly Chaput, Adam Pachter, Teresa DeBenedictis, Michele Hassler and guest Brian Rehrig. The meeting began at 7:35 p.m. and ended at 9:30 p.m.

1. **Minutes of November 3** meeting were reviewed and amended. Motion to approve with changes and corrections voted. Adam Pachter to amend minutes and send to the committee. Joey Glushko will post the approved minutes. Roly Chaput will do the January meeting minutes.
2. **Updates/Special Projects:**
 - a. **Symmes Redevelopment Project** - Roly Chaput reported:
 - (1) no new updates since the November OSC meeting;
 - (2) Developer still working on what medical facilities will be on site;
 - (3) Issue/misunderstanding about Vista Park discussed – it was reported that the location of the park changed due to the need to shift buildings because of ledge, and while the park is still 1-acre, it is not all usable level space (approx. ½ acre is level) and includes a parking lot;
 - (4) Concern was expressed that the park is the only public use at Symmes and the promise to the community was for a 1-acre park
 - b. **Minuteman Bikeway** – David White and Ann LeRoyer reported:
 - (1) Plans are being made to plant saplings along the bikeway in the Muzzioli area;
 - (2) Summer St. traffic island plantings are being rescued and replanted;
 - (3) **Action Pending:** Ann LeRoyer will send a letter on behalf of OSC about Muzzioli activities to Town Counsel
 - c. **Cemetery Expansion** – Michele Hassler reported:
 - (1) Town will be running out of burial space in approximately 10 years (hasn't been an issue since 1842);
 - (2) Study was completed in '02 of available expansion areas – currently to the last edge of the conservation buffer zone;
 - (3) Possibility of using the St. Jerome's property for a columbarium is being explored with the BoS and other Town officials.
 - d. **Reservoir Dam project** – Leslie Mayer and David White reported:
 - (1) Reservoir Committee is preparing an article for the Advocate to update the community on the upcoming work.
 - (2) A walk-around to discuss tree placement is planned for Saturday, Dec. 4th.
 - e. **Knowles Farm and Lowell Street Subdivision** – Ann LeRoyer reported, Michele Hassler commented:
 - (1) No new updates on the status of projects or when the Selectmen's hearings will be held – Ann is following up and will keep everyone informed;
 - (2) There was some concern expressed by the Selectmen regarding the letter sent by Ann LeRoyer about the Knowles Farm project on behalf of the OSC.
3. **Other Projects/Announcements**
 - a. **Arlington Land Trust Annual Meeting** – Ann LeRoyer reported:

Annual meeting will take place on December 6 at Fox Library; author Russ Cohen will speak; ALT newsletter was distributed.
 - b. **Arlington Redevelopment Board** – Roly Chaput reported:
 - (1) Next meeting to discuss the Symmes project will be held on December 13 in the Selectmen's Hearing Room – committee members are encouraged to attend and advocate for open space needs.

- c. **Board of Selectmen** – Ann LeRoyer reported:
 - (1) Date of hearings on new roads / subdivisions unknown at this time.
- d. **Zoning Bylaw Review Committee** – Roly Chaput reported:
 - (1) Concerns exist regarding recent development density – ARB is discussing a potential warrant article to address the issue.
- 4. **Management Plan Review (Robbins Farm Park)** – Roly Chaput presented:
 - a. The management plan presented was reviewed by the Friends of Robbins Farm Park Board of Directors;
 - b. Plan was discussed – edits and recommendations of the OSC to be incorporated.
- 5. **Other**
 - a. It was reported that Gene Benson is working to have Town waterway maintenance for Spy Pond/Reservoir/Hill's Pond incorporated into the Town budget.

Respectfully submitted.
Leslie Mayer